AMENDMENTS IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, at lines 1 – 7 with the following:

The antibodies can be used alone or can be included as part of a kit. To prepare the kit it is preferred to obtain a card member having at least two wells. More preferably, the card member will contain enough wells for two controls and a sample to be tested. The additional wells are preferred to insure the accuracy of the results. Any of a variety of commercially available cards may be used so long as a monoclonal antibody mix can be readily placed on the card. An example of a preferred blood typing cardboard substrate card is a ~~PathoDx~~ PATHODX® card, made by Diagnostic Products Corp., Los Angeles, California.

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, at lines 8 – 13 with the following:

The above-discussed monoclonal antibodies can be optionally mixed into solution. The solution is preferably comprised of 0.02M phosphate-buffered saline with 2% bovine serum albumin (BSA). ~~Stabilicoat~~ a blocking reagent such as STABILICOAT® (SurModics, Inc., Eden Prairie, Minnesota) may be added at this stage, or can later be contacted with the mixture, as discussed below. The blocking reagent, such as ~~Stabilicoat~~ STABILICOAT® is added to the antibody mixture to prevent degradation. Other solutions instead of the blocking reagent, ~~Stabilicoat~~ STABILICOAT® may be used, as long as degradation of the antibodies is inhibited. Also, different amounts of PBS and BSA may be used.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, at line 22 and continuing on page 8, through line 8 with the following:

The antibody mixture, which is optionally in solution, is preferably mixed with an equal volume of plasma ~~Stabilicoat~~ STABILICOAT®. The antibody mixture in solution with the blocking reagent, ~~Stabilicoat~~ STABILICOAT® is then added to at least one well and more

preferably three of the wells on the card member. The antibody and the blocking reagent, such as ~~Stabilicoat~~ STABILICOAT® mixture is spread out over an entire defined area with a paintbrush. In other wells found on the substrate of the kit, an anti-B reagent, such as *Triticum vulgaris,* is added. Other anti-B reagents can be used in the alternative. Both the anti-B and anti-A reagents, after the antibodies have been mixed in solution with the blocking reagent, such as ~~Stabilicoat~~ STABILICOAT®, are preferably added in an amount equal to between 50 microliters (µl) and 100 µl, although 100 µl is preferred. A combination that equals 100 µl may be used. The 100 µl amount is selected because it is an amount sufficient to allow for agglutination to be viewed by the naked eye. Other amounts, however, can be used.

B1 cont

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, at line 18 and continuing on page 9, through line 3 with the following:

A blood sample to be tested is taken from a feline subject. The blood sample can be comprised only of erythrocytes, or can contain plasma, serum, and other blood constituents. An anticoagulent, such as ethylene diaminetetracetic acid (EDTA), is added thereto. If a lyophilized card is used, 50 µl of PBS is added to each well to reconstitute the solution. Between 50 µl and 100 µl of the cat EDTA whole blood sample is added to an anti-A well and a sample is added to the anti-B well. Whole blood and PBS are mixed for 12 rotations, with the flattened end of a ~~Dispenstir~~ DISPENSTIR®, or wooden stick, to cover the entire oval. The card is rocked for 1 minute and read. If the blood agglutinates in the ovals with the anti-A monoclonal mixture, this indicates that the cat is blood type A. If the blood agglutinates with the anti-B reagent, it indicates blood type B. If the blood agglutinates with both anti-A and anti-B, it indicates blood type AB.

B2

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, at line 23 and continuing on page 10, through line 8 with the following:

Each blood sample was typed by tube agglutination or by using blood-typing cardboard substrate cards (~~PathoDx~~ PATHODX® cards, Diagnostic Products Corp., Los Angeles, CA). For typing on cards, 50 µl of whole blood was placed in various defined areas of the substrate member and mixed with 50 µl of either naturally occurring anti-A antiserum from a blood type B cat (undiluted) or WGL (60 µg/ml in phosphate buffered saline (PBS), pH 7.4). The card was rocked for 2 minutes and examined for macroscopic agglutination. For tube agglutination, 100 µl of anti-A antiserum or 100 µl of WGL (60 µl/ml diluted 1:8 in PBS (with 1% BSA) was added to 100 µl of a 1% saline suspension of erythrocytes. The contents of the tubes were mixed and incubated at room temperature for 15 minutes, then centrifuged and read for macroscopic agglutination.

Please replace the paragraph on page 22, at lines 1 - 8 with the following:

Two anti-A monoclonal antibodies, 13G3 and 4E10, produced according to the method of Example 1, were mixed in 0.02 M Phosphate buffered saline (PBS) with 2% bovine serum albumin. The concentration of murine IGM monoclonal antibodies 13G3 and 4E10 were, respectively, 68 µg/ml and 128 µg/ml. An equal volume of a blocking reagent, ~~StabilCoat~~ STABILICOAT® Immunoassay Stabilizer (SurModics, Inc. 9924 West 74th Street, Eden Prairie, MN 55344-3523) was added to the monoclonal antibody mixture. The blood typing card had eight wells. 100 µl of the monoclonal antibody mixture was placed inside each of four wells and spread over the wells with a #5 paintbrush.